

## ABSTRACT

A safety trocar is provided in which the cutting tip is withdrawn into the cannula in response to counterforce being removed from the cutting tip, e.g., by the tip entering a body cavity. The cutting tip is maintained in the exposed position by a mechanism associated with the obturator shaft, and is automatically withdrawn into the cannula under the force of a spring when the first mechanism is released by a second mechanism associated with the obturator. Penetration force is maintained at a minimum and safe and efficacious trocar entry is facilitated.